

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 12 are amended, and claim 21 is added. Claims 1-4, 6-15 and 17-21 are pending.

Support for the amendments is apparent in the original disclosure at, e.g., page 2, lines 16-19; page 4, lines 5-17; page 5, item (f); page 8, third paragraph; and the figures.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is obviated by the amendment of claim 1, which places claim 1 into the condition deemed to be allowable by Examiner Detschel in discussions with the undersigned.

Claim 12 is rewritten in independent form based on the same discussions, in which the Examiner stated that the device claims would be allowed if they did not depend on claim 1 as previously presented.

New claim 21 is added as an alternative embodiment of the claimed method, wherein a "tangible result" of the claim is recited differently than in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendments obviate the sole pending rejection and place the application in immediately condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for initial examination and allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Please charge or credit our
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consideration of this submission.